

TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 11336/639
Serial No. 10/676,867	Filing Date September 30, 2003	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Inventor(s) Ziegler et al.			
Title of Invention Loudspeaker with a Front-Mounted Sealing Element and Method of Manufacturing the Same			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is Information Disclosure Statement (in dup.); Form PTO-1449; copies of 31 cited references; and
reply in postcard.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a _____ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

				Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9=		x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=		x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=		+\$290=	
					Total add'l fee	\$	Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$_____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Nichols
 Jeffry M. Nichols
 Registration No. 46,958
 Attorney for Applicant
 Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

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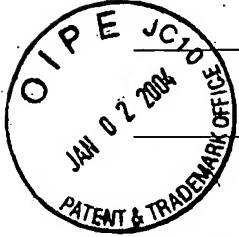
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 30, 2003.

Date: December 30, 2003

Signature: Jeff Nichols

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on



December 30, 2003

Date of Deposit

Jeffry M. Nichols

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Jeff Nichols

Signature

December 30, 2003

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 11336/639

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ziegler et al.

Serial No.: 10/676,867

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

For: Loudspeaker with a Front-Mounted
Sealing Element and Method of
Manufacturing the Same

Examiner:

Group Art Unit No.:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

No.	Date	Name
US 3,612,783	10/12/1971	Schneider
US 4,191,865	03/04/1980	King et al.
US 4,550,429	10/29/1985	Burbank et al.
US 4,565,905	01/21/1986	Nation
US 4,572,326	02/25/1986	Hutchins
US 4,653,607	03/31/1987	Bage
US 4,853,966	08/01/1989	Skrzycki
US 5,532,437	07/02/1996	Simplicean et al.
US 5,705,108	01/06/1998	Nonogaki
US 5,739,481	04/14/1998	Baumhauer, Jr. et al.
US 5,740,264	04/14/1998	Kojima
US 5,996,727	12/07/1999	Blind et al.
US 6,058,199	05/02/2000	Umitsu
US 6,171,534	01/09/2001	Leach et al.
US 6,457,547	10/01/2002	Novitschitsch
US 6,661,902	12/09/2003	Ziegler et al.
0552040	01/03/1996	EPO
0783238	07/09/1997	EPO
1106438	06/13/2001	EPO
DE3424434	10/31/1985	Germany
DE19501292	07/25/1996	Germany
DE19633097	03/06/1997	Germany
DE19626813	04/10/1997	Germany
DE19713897	11/06/1997	Germany
DE19752786	06/25/1998	Germany
DE19740400	03/18/1999	Germany
DE19957938	06/07/2001	Germany
FR2633568	01/05/1990	France
JP10-136486	05/22/1998	Japan
	01/29/2003	European Search Report, EP App. No. 00111613, 3 pages
	08/27/2003	European Search Report EP App. No. 00125563, 5 pages


In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/588,906, filed June 7, 2000 and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with Rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of documents not previously cited and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior application Serial No. 09/588,906 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff M. Nichols
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/676,867	CASE NO. 11336/639
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE September 30, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT
APPLICANT(S): Ziegler et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

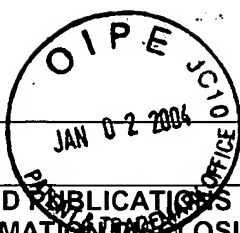
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	3,612,783	10/12/1971	Schneider		
	A2	4,191,865	03/04/1980	King et al.		
	A3	4,550,429	10/29/1985	Burbank et al.		
	A4	4,565,905	01/21/1986	Nation		
	A5	4,572,326	02/25/1986	Hutchins		
	A6	4,653,607	03/31/1987	Bage		
	A7	4,853,966	08/01/1989	Skrzycki		
	A8	5,532,437	07/02/1996	Simplicean et al.		
	A9	5,705,108	01/06/1998	Nonogaki		
	A10	5,739,481	04/14/1998	Baumhauer, Jr. et al.		
	A11	5,740,264	04/14/1998	Kojima		
	A12	5,996,727	12/07/1999	Blind et al.		
	A13	6,058,199	05/02/2000	Umitsu		
	A14	6,171,534	01/09/2001	Leach et al.		
	A15	6,457,547	10/01/2002	Novitschitsch		
	A16	6,661,902	12/09/2003	Ziegler et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A17	0552040	01/03/1996	EPO		
	A18	0783238	07/09/1997	EPO		
	A19	1106438	06/13/2001	EPO		
	A20	DE3424434	10/31/1985	Germany		
	A21	DE19501292	07/25/1996	Germany		
	A22	DE19633097	03/06/1997	Germany		
	A23	DE19626813	04/10/1997	Germany		
	A24	DE19713897	11/06/1997	Germany		
	A25	DE19752786	06/25/1998	Germany		
	A26	DE19740400	03/18/1999	Germany		
	A27	DE19957938	06/07/2001	Germany		
	A28	FR2633568	01/05/1990	France		
	A29	JP10-136486	05/22/1998	Japan		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/676,867	CASE NO. 11336/639
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION AND CLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE September 30, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT
APPLICANT(S): Ziegler et al.		

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
	A30	European Search Report, EP App. No. 00111613, search concluded January 29, 2003, 3 pages
	A31	European Search Report, EP App. No. 00125563, search concluded August 27, 2003, 5 pages

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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